

REMARKS

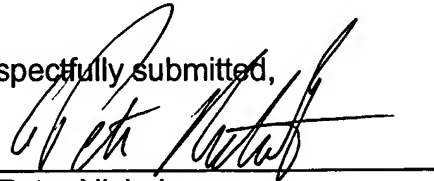
Claims 1-11 and 14-20 were rejected under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting in view of claims 1-11 of the current assignee's US 6,658,976. A Terminal Disclaimer accompanies this response and thus, the rejection is now moot.

Claims 10-13 and 15-20 were rejected as anticipated in view of Chen or as obvious in view of Chen alone or in combination with Bidanset. Claims 12-20 have been canceled to present them in a continuation application. Applicants traverse the rejection of claims 10 and 11.

As noted by the obviousness-type double patenting rejection, US 6,658,976 must necessarily disclose the features of claims 10 and 11. Therefore, US 6,658,976 (and the application from which it was granted) must necessarily provide support for claims 10 and 11. As a result, claims 10 and 11 are entitled to the January 21, 2001 filing date of US 6,658,976, which precedes the Chen patent filing date of April 12, 2001. Thus, Chen is not effective prior art against claims 10 and 11. Withdrawal of the rejection and notification of allowance is requested.

If, for any reason, the Examiner feels that the above amendments and remarks do not put the claims in condition for allowance, the undersigned attorney can be reached at (312) 321-4276 to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,



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